



## Senate

General Assembly

February Session, 2010

**File No. 353**

Senate Bill No. 401

*Senate, April 7, 2010*

The Committee on Public Health reported through SEN. HARRIS of the 5th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING AN INITIATIVE TO INCREASE AND IMPROVE  
THE STATE'S HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1      Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Department of Public  
2      Health, in collaboration with the Department of Higher Education, the  
3      Labor Department, the Office of Workforce Competitiveness, The  
4      University of Connecticut, The University of Connecticut School of  
5      Medicine, The University of Connecticut School of Dentistry, the  
6      Connecticut State University System and the regional community-  
7      technical college system, shall develop an initiative to address the  
8      state's health care workforce shortage. Such initiative shall seek to  
9      increase the number of health care workers in the state through the  
10     offering of expanded and enhanced educational programs at public  
11     institutions of higher education. The initiative shall include, but not be  
12     limited to, the following: (1) Expansion of existing health care related  
13     academic programs to promote increased enrollment and retention of  
14     students in such programs; (2) development of alternative academic

15 programs that are designed to assimilate displaced workers and other  
16 individuals considering a career change into the health care workforce;  
17 (3) recruitment and retention of underserved populations into the  
18 health care workforce; (4) the establishment of collaborative  
19 relationships between health care professions that will assist in  
20 improving access to health care; (5) development of distance learning  
21 initiatives; and (6) development of on-the-job training initiatives that  
22 are designed to provide valuable work experience to those receiving  
23 the training and assist in alleviating health care workforce shortages,  
24 particularly in areas of the state with underserved populations.

25 (b) Not later than January 1, 2012, the Commissioner of Public  
26 Health shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a  
27 of the general statutes, on the initiative to the joint standing  
28 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
29 relating to higher education and employment advancement, public  
30 health and labor and public employees.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**PH**            *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

### **OFA Fiscal Note**

#### **State Impact:**

<b>Agency Affected</b>	<b>Fund-Effect</b>	<b>FY 11 \$</b>	<b>FY 12 \$</b>
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Cost	40,308	39,969
Comptroller Misc. Accounts (Fringe Benefits) <sup>1</sup>	GF - Cost	10,442	26,051

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

#### **Explanation**

The bill results in a cost to the state of \$50,750 in FY 11 and \$66,020 in FY 12 for the Department of Public Health (DPH) to implement a comprehensive initiative to increase and improve the state's health care workforce. By January 1, 2012, DPH shall report on this initiative to various committees of the General Assembly. Cost details are provided in the table below:

<b>Item</b>	<b>FY 11</b>	<b>FY 12</b>
Education Specialist (durational for one year, January 1, 2011 to Jan 1, 2012)	39,169	39,169
Other expenses (supplies and printing of the final report in FY 12)	60	800
Equipment (computer)	1,079	
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>40,308</b>	<b>39,969</b>
Fringe Benefits	10,442	26,051
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50,750</b>	<b>66,020</b>

No funding has been included within sHB 5018 (the Revised FY 11

<sup>1</sup> The estimated non-pension fringe benefit rate as a percentage of payroll is 26.66% which includes health insurance, social security, Medicare, life insurance, and unemployment compensation. Fringe benefit costs for new positions do not include pension costs as new positions will not impact the state's pension contribution until FY 12 after the next scheduled actuarial valuation.

Budget, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee) to support this initiative.

***The Out Years***

No fiscal impact is anticipated in the out years, as the initiative would be concluded by January 1, 2012.

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**OLR Bill Analysis**

**SB 401**

***AN ACT CONCERNING AN INITIATIVE TO INCREASE AND  
IMPROVE THE STATE'S HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE***

**SUMMARY:**

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 31      Nay 0      (03/24/2010)